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Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 1 February 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the Chairperson's summary of the Tokyo Follow-up Meeting of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, entitled "Assessing the outcome of the United Nations Conference and looking ahead to implement the Programme of Action", held at Tokyo from 23 to 25 January 2002 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 74 (g), (h), (q) and (w), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yukio **Satoh**
Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

02-24375 (E) 200202

Annex to the letter dated 1 February 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Chairperson's summary of the Tokyo Follow-up Meeting of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

The Tokyo Follow-up Meeting of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects was held from 23 to 25 January 2002 at the invitation of the Government of Japan. Forty-seven representatives from 32 Governments as well as 32 individuals representing various organizations and research institutes participated. (A list of participants is contained in appendix II.)

The objective of the Follow-up Meeting was to sustain the momentum of the United Nations Conference and to give the participants a first-hand opportunity to assess the outcome of the Conference and to consider ways to vigorously implement the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference.

The participants in the Meeting considered that the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 that took place between the United Nations Conference and the Tokyo Follow-up Meeting had the effect of making the issues of small arms and light weapons even more relevant, since the problems of terrorism, drug trafficking, organized crime, regional conflicts and the weapons used in such conflicts are closely linked and the international community must make greater efforts to deal with such new challenges.

The Meeting proved to be very timely and useful, and achieved its objectives. Most of the participants reiterated the need to sustain momentum of the Conference and to take active initiatives at all levels to implement the Programme of Action. All the keynote presentations were valuable and enlightening, and the exchanges of views that followed were stimulating and productive. The outline of the Meeting and some of the many salient points raised and discussed during the sessions are summarized below. Mr. M. Donowaki, special assistant to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, served as the chairperson of most of the sessions.

At the opening session, a message from Mr. Junichiro Koizumi, Prime Minister of Japan, was introduced; subsequently, the Meeting was addressed by Mr. Seiken Sugiura, Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. Camilo Reyes, President of the Conference and Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations Office at Geneva, and Mr. Carlos dos Santos, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mozambique to the United Nations.

In session 1, under the theme "Assessment of the United Nations Conference", keynote presentations were made by Chairperson Mitsuro Donowaki, Special Assistant to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Camilo Reyes Rodriguez, President of the United Nations Conference, João Honwana, Secretary of the United Nations Conference and Chief of the Conventional Branch of the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs, and Keith Krause, Programme Director of the Small Arms Survey, Geneva, followed by a general exchange of views.

In the discussion there was broad agreement on the value of the United Nations Conference and the Programme of Action as a legitimization of the various activities related to the issue of small arms and light weapons and the recognition of its importance. Although some participants thought that the Programme of Action did not go far enough, all agreed that it was a valuable first step. Moreover, there was broad agreement that the Programme of Action was a common basis from which different States and regions could move forward at a speed appropriate to their desires, needs and capacities. The Programme of Action empowers States and regions to decide what aspects of the issue to prioritize.

In session 2, under the theme "Exchange of views on the Programme of Action adopted at the United Nations Conference" keynote presentations were made by Ana Maria Sampaio of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, Denis Chouinard of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada, Fu Chong of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, C. Edward Peartree, Senior Policy Expert on Small Arms, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State of the United States of America; Antonio Cosano Perez, Ambassador-at-Large for International Security Affairs of Spain, on behalf of the European Union; and Ambassador Pasi Patokallio of Finland, followed by a general exchange of views. The participants endorsed the approach of Mr. Reyes in highlighting a range of measures that could — and should — be taken immediately by States without requiring legislative procedures, for example, establishing national points of contact and designating national coordinating agencies for the implementation of the Programme of Action, and starting record-keeping on small arms and light weapons. The United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs is also empowered to collect and circulate such data and information provided by States. It was also noted that some measures were more relevant than others to particular regions — for example, in relation to the concerns of South-East Asia about transnational organized crime — and that this would determine implementation priorities.

During the discussion there was a very encouraging exchange of information, giving an early indication of the initiatives which were being undertaken, both regionally and nationally, to implement and advance the Programme of Action. Participants agreed that there were a large number of such initiatives under way, particularly in Latin America and Africa, and that this was a positive aid to speedy implementation of national measures.

In session 3, under the theme "Exports to non-State actors", keynote presentations were made by Ambassador dos Santos, C. Edward Peartree of the United States Department of State and Peggy Mason of Canada, followed by an interesting and informative discussion of the issue. This was a topic on which the positions of participating States at the United Nations Conference had been sharply divided.

Although these divisions remained, the discussion was constructive and several potential avenues for future work to bridge the divides were suggested. For example, Ambassador dos Santos highlighted the fact that effective implementation of the Programme of Action, particularly of its section II, paragraph 11, would make it much more difficult for non-State actors to obtain small arms and light weapons. Some participants suggested that the issue might be resolved through the efforts for a clearer formulation of the export criteria of the Programme of Action in the follow-up process, while others thought that its recognition as a matter of principle

might still be needed. Mr. Peartree agreed with other participants that disagreements on the issue should not be allowed to interfere with the implementation of the Programme of Action, which was the key priority, but he stated United States concerns about the failure to consider exceptional circumstances under which arms supplies to non-State actors would be necessary. He also noted that the United States favoured an alternative conceptualization, differentiating between responsible and irresponsible end-users. Ms. Mason suggested that a fruitful route for resolving the issue would be to look at international law and how it could be used to support a constructive interpretation of section II, paragraph 11. The establishment of a group of governmental experts for that purpose might be a way forward. The session proved to be the start of a constructive dialogue and it was agreed that the dialogue should be continued at future similar meetings.

In session 4, under the theme "International assistance and cooperation", keynote presentations were made by Yoshihumi Okamura, Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (who also chaired the session); Owen Greene of the University of Bradford, United Kingdom; Samuel Hinga Norman, Deputy Minister of Defence of Sierra Leone; El Ghassim Wane, Acting Deputy Head of the Organization of African Unity Conflict Management Centre; Takuto Kubo of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo; and Sukehiro Hasegawa, Director of the Tokyo office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), followed by a general exchange of views.

The session acknowledged the path-breaking initiative by the Government of Japan to implement an "action-oriented disarmament initiative". In the general discussion it was pointed out that some of the most affected and least developed countries lacked not only the capacity to implement the Programme of Action, but also sufficient knowledge about it. There was a discussion of the problems of small arms and light weapons in countries such as Cambodia in South-East Asia, Sierra Leone in Africa, and Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in Europe. There was agreement as to the key role of development in providing incentives for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, and recognition that the order in which those activities were undertaken might vary in order to meet local needs and conditions, for example, in Afghanistan. A key requirement was to make weapons less relevant to the local community, and this might require: providing security on the ground, security sector reform and providing people with a livelihood.

The session also included specific consideration of the needs of Afghanistan in the aftermath of the conflict there and the potential problem of the small arms and light weapons left in the region. The relationship between development and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration is relevant to the process beginning to get under way in Afghanistan, where priorities include: assisting the Interim Administration/Government in assessing the problem of small arms and light weapons; developing a strategy, policy and realistic action plan for small arms reduction in Afghanistan; creating opportunities for legal and sustainable livelihoods to reduce the demand for arms; collection and disposal of small arms and light weapons made redundant by peace-building and security sector reform processes; developing community approaches and awareness of small arms and light weapons collection processes; building capacity to control illicit flows of small arms and light weapons through strengthening of border controls and regional cooperation;

carrying out public awareness campaigns through visible destruction of initially collected small arms and light weapons to build public confidence; empowering civil society organizations to address the problem of small arms and light weapons and violence at the community level; strengthening border controls and regional cooperation in curtailing illicit flows of small arms and light weapons. UNDP expressed its readiness to work closely with the countries concerned on these priorities. In the discussion, concerns were expressed that the resources being channelled to Afghanistan might mean that less money would be made available elsewhere. However, as one participant noted, it was not always money that was required; shared expertise could be of equal value and that was a resource that even poor countries could share. South-South cooperation, particularly in terms of human resources, was very valuable.

In session 5, under the theme "Cooperation between governmental and non-governmental sectors", keynote presentations were made by Nobuhiko Suto of Interband, Paul Eavis of Saferworld, Eugenia Piza-Lopez of International Alert, Kentaro Genma, Project Adviser, Japanese Government Research on Small Arms Issues in Cambodia, and Virginia Gamba of Safer Africa, followed by a general exchange of views. The session produced very rich accounts of activities being undertaken between civil society, Governments and regional organizations in a number of regions and States. Important ideas were introduced, such as a "safety net" approach to dealing with ex-combatants and their families in carrying out disarmament, demobilization and reintegration projects. It was suggested that civil society could effectively assist Governments in promoting solutions to small arms and light weapons issues in a number of ways: policy formulation, action-oriented research, implementation and monitoring. Concerns were expressed that in some countries and regions scepticism remained on the part of Governments with regard to the role of NGOs and civil society. It was also noted that in some cases there needed to be greater coordination between NGO groups and increased accountability and transparency of both NGOs and Governments.

Appendix I

Programme of work

Wednesday, 23 January 2002

9.30-10 a.m.	**Registration**	
10 a.m.-12.30 p.m.	**Opening session**	Mr. Seiken Sugiura, Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan.
		Mr. Camilo Reyes Rodriguez, President, United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations Office at Geneva.
		Mr. Carlos dos Santos, Chairman, Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations.
	Session 1	*Theme: Assessment of the United Nations Conference*
		Chairperson: Mr. Mitsuro Donowaki, Special Assistant to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan
		Keynote speakers
		Mr. Mitsuro Donowaki
		Mr. Camilo Reyes Rodriguez
		Mr. João Bernardo Honwana, Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and Chief, Conventional Arms Branch, Department for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations.
		Dr. Keith Krause, Programme Director, Small Arms Survey, Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva.
		Discussion
2-5 p.m.	**Session 2**	*Theme: Exchange of views on the Programme of Action adopted at the United Nations Conference*
		Chairperson: Mr. Mitsuro Donowaki
		Keynote speakers
		Ms. Anna Maria Sampaio (Brazil), Head, Disarmament and Sensitive Technologies Division, Ministry of External Relations.
		Mr. Denis Chouinard (Canada), Deputy Director, International Security Research and Outreach Programme, Non-Proliferation, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

		Mr. Fu Chong (China), Counsellor, Department of Arms Control and Disarmament, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
		Mr. C. Edward Peartree (United States of America), Senior Policy Expert on Small Arms, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State.
		Mr. Antonio Cosano Perez (European Union), Ambassador-at-Large for International Security Affairs.
		Mr. Pasi Patokallio (Finland), Ambassador of Finland to Israel and Cyprus.
		Discussion
1.30-8 p.m.		Reception hosted by Mr. Seiken Sugiura, Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan.
Thursday, 24 January 2002		
10 a.m.-12.30 p.m.	**Session 3**	*Theme: Exports to non-State actors*
		Chairperson: Mr. Mitsuro Donowaki
		Keynote speakers
		Mr. Carlos dos Santos, Chairman, Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations.
		Mr. C. Edward Peartree (United States of America), Senior Policy Expert on Small Arms, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State.
		Ms. Peggy Mason (Canada), Ambassador.
		Discussion
2-5 p.m.	**Session 4**	*Theme: International assistance and cooperation*
		Chairperson: Mr. Yoshihumi Okamura, Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
		Keynote speakers
		Mr. Yoshihumi Okamura (Japan), Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
		Dr. Owen Greene, Senior Lecturer, Department of Peace Studies, University of Bradford, United Kingdom.
		Mr. Samuel Hinga Norman (Sierra Leone), Deputy Minister of Defence.
		Mr. Sukehiro Hasegawa (UNDP), Director, UNDP Tokyo office.

		Mr. El Ghassim Wane (OAU), Acting Deputy Head, OAU Conflict Management Centre.
		Mr. Takuto Kubo (UNMIK), Skendaraj/Srbica Municipality, Assistant Civil Affairs Officer.
		Discussion
Friday, 25 January 2002		
9.30 a.m.	**Session 5**	*Theme: Cooperation between governmental and non-governmental sectors*
		Chairperson: Mr. Mitsuro Donowaki
		Keynote speakers
		Mr. Nobuhiko Suto, Interband, member of the House of Representatives.
		Mr. Paul Eavis, Director, Saferworld, United Kingdom.
		Ms. Eugenia Piza-Lopez, Head, Policy and Advocacy Department, International Alert, United Kingdom.
		Mr. Kentaro Genma, Project Adviser, Japanese Government Research on Small Arms Issues in Cambodia.
		Ms. Virginia Gamba, Director, International Interactions, of Safer Africa, South Africa.
		Discussion
Noon	**Session 6**	*Closing session and wrap-up of the Meeting*
		Chairpersons: Mr. Mitsuro Donowaki Mr. Seiken Sugiura, Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan.

Appendix II

List of participants

A. Member States and others

Australia

Mr. Jeff Robinson, Counsellor, Embassy of Australia in Japan

Belgium

Ms. Marie-France Andre, Head, Department Weapons Control, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Brazil

Ms. Ana Maria Sampaio, Head, Disarmament and Sensitive Technologies Division, Ministry of External Relations

Mr. Samuel Bueno, First Secretary of the Brazilian Embassy in Japan

Cambodia

Lt. Gen. King Samnang, Deputy Director General, Cambodian National Police

Canada

Mr. Denis Chouinard, Deputy Director and Head of International Security Research and Outreach Programme, Non-Proliferation, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

China

Mr. Fu Chong, Counsellor, Department of Arms Control and Disarmament, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Egypt

H.E. Dr. Mahmoud Karem, Ambassador, Embassy of Egypt in Japan

Mr. Ashraf Sultan, Second Secretary, Embassy of Egypt in Japan

Finland

H.E. Mr. Pasi Patokallio, Ambassador of Finland to Israel and Cyprus

France

Mr. Etienne Bosquillon de Jenlis, Controleur général des armees, Ministère de la défense

Mr. Graham Paul, Political Counsellor, Embassy of France in Japan

Mr. Casabonne Masonnave, First Secretary, Embassy of France in Japan

Mr. Mathien Léfébure, Attaché, Embassy of France in Japan

India

Mr. Ramesh Chander, Counsellor, Embassy of India in Japan

Mr. C. Rajashekar, Embassy of India in Japan

Mr. T. Armstrong Changsam, Second Secretary, Embassy of India in Japan

Indonesia

Mr. Abdurrahman Moh. Fachir, Deputy Director for Political and Security Affairs, Directorate of International Organizations, Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Israel

Mr. Alon Bar, Minister-Counsellor, Egypt Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Dan Arbell, Minister-Counsellor, Deputy Chief, Embassy of Israel in Japan

Jordan

Dr. Atef Odibat, Director, Regional Human Security Centre, Jordan Institute of Diplomacy

Kenya

Ms. Sharon Konchellah, Assistant Secretary in International Organizations Conferences and Small Arms Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

H.E. Ms. Mary Donde Odinga, Ambassador, Embassy of Kenya in Japan

Mali

H.E. M. Nakounte Diakite, Ambassadeur, Directeur des affaires politiques au Ministère des affaires étrangeres et des Maliens de l'exterieur

Mexico

Mr. Alejandro Negrin, Deputy Director to the General Directorate of the United Nations System, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

New Zealand

Ms. Maria Borshevsky, Second Secretary, Embassy of New Zealand in Japan

Niger

Colonel Maimoctar Kassouma, Président, Commission nationale pour la collecte et le controles des armes illicites

Nigeria

Mr. Simeon Adewale Adekanye, Foreign Service Officer Special Grade, and Director, International Organizations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

H.E. Mr. Emmanuel Oseimiegha Otiotio, Ambassador, Embassy of Nigeria in Japan

Mr. Godwin Owoicho Agamah, Minister-Counsellor, Embassy of Nigeria in Japan

Norway

H.E. Mr. Leif Arne Ulland, Ambassador, Special Adviser on Arms Control and Disarmament, Department of Security Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Philippines

Mr. Robert O. Ferrer, Foreign Service Officer, Director, Office of United Nations and International Organizations

Russian Federation

Mr. Alexey M. Ovchinnikov, First Secretary, Embassy of the Russian Federation in Japan

Sierra Leone

H.E. Mr. Samuel Hinga Norman, Deputy Minister of Defence

Mr. Dennis Kpawoh Vandi, Deputy Director of Defence, Ministry of Defence

South Africa

Mr. David Robin Wensley, Deputy Director, Regional Arms Matters

Spain

H.E. Mr. Antonio Cosano Perez, Ambassador-at-Large for International Security Affairs

Mr. Francisco Benitez, First Secretary, Embassy of Spain in Japan

Sweden

Mr. Joakim Vaverka, Desk Officer, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Section, Department for Global Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Switzerland

Mr. Stefano Toscano, Political Division IV, Section for Peace and Human Security, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Mr. Trpe Stojanovski, Counsellor, Department for International Cooperation and European Integration, Ministry of the Interior

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Ms. Geradine O'Callaghan, Senior Adviser, Arms Control, Conflict and Humanitarian Affairs Department, Department for International Development

Mr. Andrew Wood, Assistant Director/Head, Export Control Policy, Proliferation and Arms Control Secretariat, Ministry of Defence

Mr. Simon N. Brown, Second Secretary, Embassy of United Kingdom in Japan

United States of America

Mr. C. Edward Peartree, Senior Policy Expert on Small Arms, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State

European Union

Mr. Cornelis Keijzer, First Secretary, Delegation of the European Commission in Japan

Ms. Helene Strom, Delegation of the European Commission in Japan

B. Representatives of international and regional organizations

H.E. Mr. Camilo Reyes Rodriguez

President, United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations Office at Geneva

H.E. Mr. Carlos dos Santos

Chairman, Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations

Mr. João Bernardo Honwana

Chief, Conventional Arms Branch, Department for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Mr. Tsutomu Ishiguri

Director, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

Mr. Jean Jacques Purusi Sadiki

Chargé de bureau, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

Mr. Alves Gasparini

Director, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Mr. Sukehiro Hasegawa

Director, UNDP, Tokyo office

Mr. Nils Kastberg

Director, Office of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF

Ms. Sae-ryo Kim, Assistant Programme Officer, UNICEF, Tokyo

Mr. El Ghassim Wane

Acting Deputy Head, OAU Conflict Management Centre

C. Experts and representatives of NGOs

Dr. W. James Arputharaj

Executive Director, South Asia Partnership International

Mr. Paul Eavis

Director, Saferworld, United Kingdom

Ms. Virginia Gamba

Director, International Interactions of Safer Africa, South Africa

Mr. Kentaro Genma

Project Adviser, Japanese Government Researcher on Small Arms Issues in Cambodia

Dr. Owen Greene

Senior Lecturer, Department of Peace Studies, University of Bradford, United Kingdom

Dr. Keith Krause

Programme Director, Small Arms Survey, Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva

Mr. Takuto Kubo

Skendaraj/Srbica Municipality, Assistant Civil Affairs Officer, UNMIK

H.E. Ms. Peggy Mason

Ambassador of Canada

Ms. Eugenia Piza Lopez

Head, Policy and Advocacy Department, International Alert, United Kingdom

Mr. Neb Sinthay

Executive Coordinator, Working Group for Weapons Reduction, Cambodia

Dr. Joanna Spear

Director, Graduate Research Programme, Department of War Studies, University of London

D. Experts and representatives of Japanese NGOs

Mr. Nobuhiko Suto

Interband, Member of the House of Representatives

Mr. Kuniaki Asomura

Executive Director, The Japan Center for Preventive Diplomacy

Mr. Yoshitomo Tanaka

Special Assistant to the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr. Tsutomu Arai

Senior Research Fellow and Planning Director, Centre for the Promotion of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, Japan Institute of International Affairs

E. Government of Japan

H.E. Mr. Seiken Sugiura

Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

Mr. Mitsuro Donowaki

Special Assistant to the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr. Yuji Miyamoto

Director-General for Arms Control and Scientific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Takashi Osanai

Deputy Director-General for Arms Control and Scientific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Yoshihumi Okamura

Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Kenichiro Tanaka

Desk Officer, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Japan International Cooperation Agency

Ms. Eri Komukai, Associate Specialist, Global Issues Division, Planning and Evaluation Department

Ms. Yuko, Dohi